## **REMARKS**

Reexamination and reconsideration of the rejections are hereby requested.

Pending claim 23 stands allowed. Claim 20 has been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten into independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, independent claim 17 has been amended herein to include the limitation of claim 20. Claims 18, 19, 21, 22 and 28 are being retained and now depend from amended claim 17.

It is submitted that claim 17, as amended herein, is now allowable in that it includes the limitation of claim 20 indicated as being directed to allowable subject matter. It is further submitted that claims 18, 19, 21, 22 and 28 are allowable in that they depend from allowable claim 17. Claim 23 has already been indicated to be allowable.

Since the application now includes only claims indicated to contain allowable subject matter, it is submitted that that application is in condition for allowance and early favorable action is requested.

Please charge any fees associated with this filing, or apply any credits, to our Deposit Account No. 03-1721.

Respectfully submitted,

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